if so, whether Government have given their approval to CBRI to extend its consultancy service to entrepreneurs;

(b) how does the cost of CBRI differ from the estimates of CPWD or State PWDs; and

(c) what is the reaction to the said proposal by the Ministry of Tourism?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Patenting rights of Neem

1080. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have successfully fought a case against patenting of the healing effects of turmeric (Haldi) by certain MNCs; if so, the details of the case and the outcome thereof; and

(b) whether similar patenting rights in respect of Neem and its healing effects on human body have also been challenged in so far as researches on Neem and its healing effects have been made in India since vedic era; if so, the steps taken in the matter and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) A US patent (No. 5401504) on use of Turmeric in wound healing was granted in May, 1995 to Suman K. Das and Hari Her P. Cohly of USA and assigned to University of Missisippi Medical Centre, USA. The said patent claimed a method of promoting healing of a wound in a patient using turmeric powder through topical as well as oral administration. Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, India filed re-examination proceedings against the above patent at United States patents and Trademarks office (USPTO) on October 28, 1996 based on prior art which was collected, documented and submitted at USPTO. On re-examination, the USPTO gave a final rejection to all the six claims of the above stated patent. The patentees are understood to have filed a response as per provisions of the US patent law.

(b) As per available information, US patents granted in respect of NEEM are not for the use of Neem perse as a healing agent in human beings but of the active compounds isolated therefrom. Government is not aware of any formal efforts to challenge the grant of such patents for neem at USPTO.

Permission to U.S. Company for setting up 100 per cent Subsidiary in India

1081. SHRI K.M. SAIFULLAH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have permitted the U.S. Company, Cray Research Inc., to set up a 100 per cent subsidiary in India;

(b) if so, the functions this subsidiary will perform;

(c) whether the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) and some other science organisations had opposed this approval and if so, the grounds thereof; and

(d) the reasons for rejection of their plea?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Indian subsidiary, inter-alia, will provide support to Cray Research customers and will promote its products and services. It will be headed by a

Country Manager and will employ engineers for providing support, marketing professionals and administrative personnel. It will endeavour to earn commissions from new product sales and revenues from support services which will be sufficient to meet its expenses and generate profits to the Company. The operational plan of the company would include providing hardware and software support to the Company's clients in India. The Indian subsidiary will also be doing marketing related activities which willl include prospecting, tendering, making presentations, and similar activities in order to sell Cray Research's products and services.

(c) and (d) The Government approved the proposal taking into account the requirement of hi-tech equipment at competitive levels, as also the views of different interest groups involved.

संचार उपग्रह में खराबी

1082. **श्री राघवजी:** क्या **प्रधान मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि संचार उपग्रह में खराबी आ गई है; यदि हां, तो इसमें क्या खराबी आई है और किस सीमा तक उस खराबी को दूर किया जा सकता है;

(ख) इस खराबी के क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) उपरोक्त खराबी का संचार सेवाओं पर क्या प्रभाव पड़ा है और उसे दूर करने के लिए क्या कदम उठाये गए हैं और इसे कब तक ठीक कर दिया जाएगा?

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री और विद्युत मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री योगेन्द्र के० अलघ): (क) जी, हां। इन्सैट-2डी उपग्रह में अक्तूबर 1, 1997 को एक विसंगति पैदा हो गई थी तथा अक्तूबर 5, 1997 को इसे निष्क्रिय घोषित कर दिया गया। इस विसंगति को दूर नहीं किया जा सकता था।

(ख) इस विसंगति के होने का अधिक संभावित कारण पावर बस में शार्ट-सर्किट का होना था।

(ग) इन्सैट-2डी की विफलता से इन्सैट अन्तरिक्ष खण्ड में 23 प्रेषानुकर कम हो गए हैं। अन्तरिक्ष खण्ड क्षमता में यह महत्वपूर्ण क्षति है तथा इन्सैट क्षमता के तुरन्त संवर्धन के लिए प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं।

Failure of INSAT-2D

1083. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent failure of INSAT-2D was due to short circuit in the power bus;

(b) if so, the details of the vendor, who supplied the power bus and if not, what was the reason therefor;

(c) whether any failure analysis has been carried out;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what other steps are being taken to prevent such failures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A short circuit in one of the two power bus lines is the most probable cause that led to the eventual failure of INSAT-2D. The power system of INSAT-2D was designed and built by Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). The various subsystems had been fabricated by the different Centres and Units of ISRO.

(c) and (d) Several technical committees have been set up to carryout detailed analysis of the failure. A senior level Committee with technical experts drawn from several academic and R&D institutions has also been set up. The Committee is expected to complete its task by January, 1998.

(e) A detailed component level and circuit level view of the power system is being carried out. If any deficiencies come to light, appropriate modifications will be carried out in the future satellites. Further, the mechanisms for process control during fabrication and also the quality audit are being strengthened.